

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
ASHEVILLE DIVISION
CIVIL CASE NO. 1:21-cv-00186-MR-WCM**

KATHLEEN D. RODBERG,)	
Administrator of the ESTATE OF)	
DOROTHY LOU THOMAS,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
vs.)	<u>ORDER</u>
)	
SSC WAYNESVILLE OPERATING)	
COMPANY LLC d/b/a HAYWOOD)	
NURSING AND REHABILITATION)	
CENTER, SAVASENIORCARE)	
ADMINISTRATIVE AND)	
CONSULTING,LLC d/b/a HAYWOOD)	
NURSING AND REHABILITATION)	
CENTER; and SSC SPECIAL)	
HOLDINGS LLC,)	
)	
Defendants.)	
)	

THIS MATTER is before the Court on the parties' Consent Motion for Leave to Conduct Arbitration Related Discovery and Stay of Motion to Compel Arbitration and Stay of Merits Based Discovery [Doc. 13].

The Defendants SSC Waynesville Operating Company LLC and SavaSeniorCare Administrative and Consulting, LLC filed a Motion to Compel Arbitration and Stay Proceedings [Doc. 8] on August 10, 2021. The Plaintiff intends to object to the Defendants' arbitration motion and previously

sought an extension of time to respond to the Defendants' Motion, which was allowed. [See Doc. 10; Text-Only Order entered Aug. 24, 2021].

The Plaintiff's counsel questions the validity of a signature on the arbitration agreement and has requested arbitration-related discovery and depositions. The Defendants have consented to the Plaintiff's request. By the present motion, the parties jointly request that merits-based discovery be stayed and that the parties be allowed to conduct arbitration-related discovery.

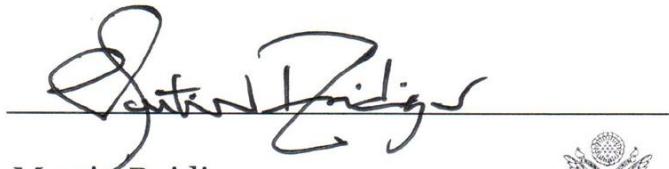
For the reasons stated in the parties' motion, and for good cause shown, the Court will grant the parties' motion.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that:

- (1) The parties' Consent Motion [Doc. 13] is **GRANTED**, and the parties shall have until **January 5, 2022** to conduct arbitration-related discovery;
- (2) The Defendants' Motion to Compel [Doc. 8] is **HELD IN ABEYANCE** pending the parties' completion of arbitration-related discovery;
- (3) The Plaintiff shall have until **January 19, 2022** to respond to the Defendants' Motion to Compel Arbitration; and
- (4) Any merits-based discovery is **STAYED** pending resolution of the Defendants' Motion to Compel.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Signed: September 21, 2021



Martin Reidinger
Chief United States District Judge 